



STATE OF ALABAMA

ALABAMA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
P. O. BOX 304260
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-4260

TWINKLE ANDRESS CAVANAUGH, PRESIDENT

JOHN A. GARNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JEREMY H. ODEN, ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

CHRIS "CHIP" BEEKER, JR., ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

December 15, 2017

Mr. Ajit Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Chairman Pai:

As President of the Alabama Public Service Commission, I continue to advocate strongly in favor of expanded broadband Internet access—most notably in rural, unserved areas.

With that as background, I am writing to urge the Federal Communications Commission to approve full-funding by the end of this year for the rural companies that elected to receive federal Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) universal service support. By acting by the end of this year, you and your commission colleagues will ensure thousands of additional citizens from Alabama will benefit from new and/or upgraded broadband services since companies that receive A-CAM support are obligated to provide those services under the FCC's 2016 order.

I understand each company's commitment to reach additional Alabama citizens based on greater funding expires by the end of the year. This presents a unique opportunity for the FCC to make an immediate impact and bring broadband services to rural citizens in our state and across the country. I also recommend the FCC expeditiously evaluate additional universal service funding for the balance of the Alabama rural companies so they too will have the opportunity to reach additional customers.

I appreciate your hard work and dedication in attempting to bridge the digital divide in rural America. Doing so in Alabama is among my commission's highest priorities.

Thank you for your attention in taking this important step and approving additional A-CAM funding yet this year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Twinkle Andress Cavanaugh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Twinkle" being the most prominent.

Twinkle Andress Cavanaugh
President

Attachment



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I appreciate your hard work and dedication in attempting to bridge the digital divide in rural America. Doing so in Alabama is among my commission's highest priorities.

Thank you for your attention in taking this important step and approving additional A-CAM funding yet this year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. H. Oden", is written over the typed name.

Jeremy H. Oden

Attachment



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I appreciate your hard work and dedication in attempting to bridge the digital divide in rural America. Doing so in Alabama is among my commission's highest priorities.

Thank you for your attention in taking this important step and approving additional A-CAM funding yet this year.

Sincerely,

Chris "Chip" Beeker, Jr.

Attachment